

PRESS RELEASE

17th September 10

DUDLEY GROUP STAFF AWARDED FOR EXCELLENT PATIENT CARE

Staff from The Dudley Group of Hospitals were honoured last night at an awards ceremony for their dedication and commitment to making a real difference to patients' lives.

Two hundred of the Trust's frontline and support staff gathered at the Copthorne Hotel in Brierley Hill last night (Thurs) for their annual 'Committed to Excellence' event.

Chief Executive Paula Clark paid tribute to everyone who was nominated by colleagues, patients and their families for going the extra mile.

"Tonight is about showing you how much we appreciate what you do, day in day out, and to celebrate your successes and achievements," Paula said.

The evening was hosted by Heart FM's Breakfast Show DJ Ed James

'Committed to Excellence' is the Trust's staff recognition scheme to reward outstanding performance, and nominations were made in five categories – Excellence in Patient Care, Team Excellence, Unsung Hero – non-clinical, Unsung Hero – Clinical and Business Excellence.

A special 'Lifetime Achievement' award went to "inspirational" Chairman Alf Edwards in recognition of his long and influential career in the NHS.

Alf, who received a standing ovation as he collected his trophy, said he felt humbled by the award.

"I am stunned," he said. "I never imagined I would receive this award. It is a complete and utter surprise. A real honour."

A brand new award has been created in Alf's name to recognise outstanding achievement. The first recipient of The Alf Edwards Award went to Wilma Hosany, Matron on Ward A1 and the Emergency Assessment Unit.

Wilma, who joined the NHS in 1974, felt proud to be recognised for her work.

“It’s lovely to win this award but I feel really embarrassed,” she said. “I come to work to do my job but it is nice to be recognised.”

The winner of Team Excellence award went to the Anti Coag Outreach Team for consistently delivering a high quality service to patients.

Sarah Hughes, Clinical Nurse Specialist for the outreach team, paid tribute to her team.

“I’m very proud of the hard work of my team,” she said. “They make sure patients receive the best standards of care and it’s great that this has been recognised.”

Christopher Davies, a clinical support worker in the Renal Unit, picked up first place in the Unsung Hero – Clinical category.

“I’m chuffed and shocked,” Christopher said. “I didn’t expect it at all but I’d like to thank all the staff and colleagues for putting me forward. It’s a great achievement.”

NOTE TO EDITORS:

The Winners

Team Excellence – Anti Coag Team

Excellence in Patient Care – Hemma Gengadoo, Higher Care Support Worker in Critical Care and Post Coronary Care Unit

Business Excellence – Janet Jennings, Shift Lead, Eye Clinic

Unsung Hero – Clinical – Christopher Davies, Clinical Support Worker, Renal Unit

Unsung Hero – non-clinical – Maureen Tighe, Liaison Clerk, Emergency Department

Lifetime Achievement Award – Alf Edwards, Chairman

Alf Edwards Award – Wilma Hosany – Matron, Ward A1 and Emergency Assessment Unit.

ENDS

For more information, please call Jackie Dietrich, Communications and Engagement Officer, on (01384) 456111 ext.1423

